jingle of harness, the pealing of joybells, and the huzzas of the happy crowds.'

It was a continuous, and much appreciated, pageant, whose zest never flagged though its temper varied—solemn, joyful, intimate, or mournful, according to the occasion's exigencies. When it was known that King George V was ill, little groups of people were constantly to be seen by Buckingham Palace, waiting for bulletins to be posted; and newspaper placards, neglectful of all other topics, bore the simple announcement: 'The King.' Householders gathered round their radio sets to hear the latest account of the King's condition, and shops procured stocks of mourning; morning, evening and Sunday newspapers were ready with their special editions, framed in black, illustrated with photographs of George V's career and of the notable events of his reign, and gossip-writers prudently laid in a store of royal anecdotes, needful when grief at a beloved Sovereign's decease made their usual topics unpalatable. Broadcasting for the first time enabled practically the whole nation to follow from hour to hour the course of the King's illness, almost to be present at his bedside. They gathered round him, waiting for him to expire, their King; in some mysterious way, themselves.

'The King's life,' they heard, 'is moving peacefully towards its close'; waited to hear it again—'moving peacefully towards its close'; heard at last that he was dead. Though expected, his death was still a shock; brought a dim sense that much else was moving towards its close, though, alas, not peacefully. Some

were constrained to make their way through silent streets, and stare up at shuttered windows behind which he lay, nevermore to be seen, bearded and genial, smiling from passing motor-car or carriage, hat in hand; nevermore to pronounce a conference open, or lay a foundation stone, or attend football-match, trooping of colours, race-meeting; nevermore to receive outgoing and incoming Cabinet Ministers for hand-kissing purposes, ambassadors and visiting monarchs, both Oriental and Occidental. He represented the principle of continuity, sorely needed, and once lost difficult to re-establish. 'Firm amid the riot of